

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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DRAFTED BY EA/ IMS: JMBESHOAR: LGR

3-30-73 EXT 23749

APPROVED BY EA/ IMS - THEODORE J. C. HEAVNER

L/ C - MR. HENDERSON (DRAFT)

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R 310046 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059670

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, ID

SUBJ: FRANK STARR CASE

REF : JAKARTA 3771

1. DEPT HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH STARR'S LAWYER, J. LAWTON STONE, SEVERAL TIMES TO URGE HIM TO DEAL WITH GOI EMBASSY AND TO DELAY DEPARTURE. EMBASSY JAKARTA'S MESSAGES PASSED AS REQUESTED.

2. PRIOR TO RECEIPT REFTEL, STONE HAD TOLD DESK OFFICER THAT AFTER CONTACT WITH GEN. SARBINI, STARR HAD SPOKEN WITH PRIVATE SECRETARY TO GEN. PANGGABEAN. THE SECRETARY, SPEAKING FOR PANGGABEAN " WHO WAS IN THE ROOM AT THE TIME" HAD ALLEGEDLY SUGGESTED STONE COME TO JAKARTA IMMEDIATELY AND CLAIM WOULD DEFINITELY BE SETTLED. STARR WOULD NOT GIVE NAME OF SECRETARY TO DEPT BUT SAID HE WAS CIVILIAN FROM TAPANULI, SUMATRA AND HIS PHONE NUMBER IS 50290.

3. WHEN SUBSTANCE REFTEL PASSED TO STONE, HE SAID HE FELT MISUNDERSTANDING WITH SARBINI OVERTAKEN BY CONTACT WITH PANGGABEAN. WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD ACTUALLY TALKED TO ANYONE IN JAKARTA, STONE RELUCTANTLY INDICATED HE HAD NOT BUT THAT STARR HAD. SINCE STONE PLANNED TO CALL JAKARTA AGAIN
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EVENING OF MARCH 29, DEPT RECOMMENDED HE DO THIS HIMSELF RATHER THAN THROUGH STARR.

4. STONE CALLED DEPT MARCH 30 TO PROTEST FACT THAT ALL DOORS IN JAKARTA SEEMED CLOSED TO HIM. HE HAD TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY FOR FOUR HOURS TO REACH GEN. SARBINI, GEN. PANGGABEAN'S SECRETARY AND OTHERS. HE SAID THE MALIK CLIQUE OF SUMATRANS HAD OBVIOUSLY MOVED TO FRUSTRATE HIS EFFORTS AND THAT IT WAS FAULT OF DEPT BECAUSE CASE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH INDONESIAN EMBASSY.

5. AFTER REMINDING STONE THAT DEPT HAD INFORMED HIM FROM OUTSET THAT IT WAS DISCUSSING CASE WITH INDONESIAN EMBASSY, ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO EXPLAIN TO STONE THAT GOI WAS ALL ONE GOVERNMENT AND THAT IF DOORS WERE CLOSED TO HIM IT WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE GOI NEEDED TIME TO REACT TO HIS APPROACH. DESK OFFICER ALSO REMINDED STONE THAT ADVICE OF U. S. EMBASSY, INDONESIAN EMBASSY, SARBINI AND DEPT HAD BEEN TO HANDLE CASE BY LETTER AND/ OR TO DISCUSS IT WITH INDONESIAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS. STONE REMAINS DETERMINED TO VISIT JAKARTA AND CATEGORICALLY REJECTS IDEA OF DEALING WITH INDONESIAN EMBASSY. HE PLANS ARRIVE APRIL 4 OR 5.

6. DESK HAS BRIEFED INDONESIAN EMBASSY IN DETAIL ON STARR CASE AND RECENT DEALINGS WITH HIS LAWYER IN AS UNBIASED AND UNPREJUDICIAL WAY AS POSSIBLE AND HAS INFORMED STONE THAT THIS WAS BEING DONE AT EACH STEP ALONG THE WAY. GENERAL NIKLANI IS HANDLING FOR EMBASSY.

7. ACCORDING STONE, HE HAS INDONESIAN VISA, BUT INDONESIAN EMBASSY UNABLE TO CONFIRM THAT VISA ISSUED. IN ANY EVENT, JAKARTA HAS ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO EMBASSY THAT NO OBSTACLES ARE TO BE PUT IN WAY OF STONE'S TRAVEL TO INDONESIA AS TOURIST. HOWEVER, STONE WILL BE ADVISED AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY THAT " HE IS EXPECTED TO CONDUCT HIMSELF AS TOURIST".

8. IN FINAL CALL TO DEPT, STONE SAID HE HAD PHOTOSTAT OF CHECK FOR 10,000 DOLS AND EVIDENCE THAT THIS WAS TRANSFERRED FROM JAPANESE RADIO MANUFACTURER TO MRS. MALIK AS BRIBE. STONE EXPLICITLY STATED THAT HE WOULD USE THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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" EVIDENCE" TO EMBARRASS MALIK IF HE IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN

SETTLING STARR CLAIM. STONE ASKED THAT DEPT PASS THIS INFORMATION ON TO INDONESIAN EMBASSY. DESK OFFICER REPLIED THAT THIS LOOKED VERY MUCH LIKE BLACKMAIL BUT THAT HE WOULD PASS INFORMATION ON WITH AN EXPRESSION OF THE DEPT' S DISAPPROVAL OF STONE' S TACTIC. STONE DID NOT OBJECT AND THE DEPT HAS INFORMED EMBASSY.

9. DEPT RECORDS REFLECT THAT AS EARLY AS 1964 AND AS LATE AS DEC. 1972, THE DEPT HAS REQUESTED INFORMATION IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT STARR AND BROCE HAVE A CLAIM. INFORMATION FURNISHED BY STARR MARCH 7, 1973 AND PREVIOUSLY APPEARS TO BE INCOMPLETE AND INADEQUATE TO ENABLE DEPT TO MAKE THIS DETERMINATION.

10. EMBASSY SHOULD CONSIDER STONE PRIVATE PARTY AND NEED RENDER NO EXTRAORDINARY ASSISTANCE. SUGGEST EMBASSY MAKE AVAILABLE TO HIM LIST OF LOCAL LAWYERS. RUSH

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